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Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02
SSM-05 SIG-02 SS-15 SSO-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00
PA-02 USIE-00 SP-02 /081 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:RUNDELAND:DP
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
S/PRS - MR. CARTER (INFO)
H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)
SSM - MR. MC ANDREW
NEA - MR. COLLUMS
NEA/ARN - MR. REUTHER
NEA/EGY - MR. NEWBERRY
NEA/IAI - MR. SMITH
----------062392 052302Z /66
O 052145Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USCINCEUR
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
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USMISSION SINAI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 155794

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT:DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - JULY 5

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE, FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR JULY 5, 1977:

Q. WHAT ABOUT THE REPORTS THAT THE U.S. IS CONSIDERING OR HAVING THE IDEA OF ESTABLISHING A BASE IN ISRAEL?

A. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS NOT CONSIDERING PUTTING A BASE IN HAIFA OR ANY OTHER PLACE IN ISRAEL, AND REPORTS TO THAT EFFECT ARE SHEER SPECULATION.

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Q. AS I REMEMBER ONE OF THE STORIES, JODY POWELL WAS QUOTED AS SAYING IT'S ONE OF THE IDEAS BEING KICKED AROUND, BUT HE COULDN'T CONFIRM OR DENY IT.

A. YES, I SAW THAT BUT WHAT I'M SAYING IS WHAT I'M GOING TO STICK WITH.

Q. IT'S NOT ONE OF THE IDEAS BEING KICKED AROUND?

A. AS I SAY, WE ARE NOT CONSIDERING PUTTING A BASE IN ANY PLACE IN ISRAEL.

Q. MR. POWELL WAS INACCURATE ON THAT; IT WAS A MISUNDER-STANDING?

A. ANY OTHER QUESTIONS ON THAT SUBJECT?

Q. WHY CAN'T YOU JUST DENY THE STORY INSTEAD OF CALLING IT SPECULATION? THAT SPECULATIVE BUSINESS IS --

A. WELL, I WILL DENY IT. IF YOU WANT ME TO DENY IT I WILL DENY IT.

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Q. YOU DENY IT?

A. YES.

Q. EVEN AS AN OPTION, A WORKING OPTION, IT'S NOT A POSSI-
BILITY AT ALL?

A. ON ANY BASIS.

Q. ON A RELATED MATTER, DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE
REPORTS FROM ISRAEL AND EGYPT THAT ON ONE HAND THE ISRAELIS
ARE READY TO GO TO A GENEVA CONFERENCE IN OCTOBER, AND MR.
SADAT SAYS HE'S WILLING TO GO TO A GENEVA CONFERENCE IN
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OCTOBER?

A. YES, DON. WE, OF COURSE, HAVE SEEN THOSE REPORTS AND
WE WELCOME POSITIVE INDICATIONS OF THE DESIRE TO GET THE
NEGOTIATING PROCESS STARTED. AS YOU KNOW, WE AND THE
GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED HAVE ALREADY AGREED THAT OUR EFFORTS
SHOULD BE DIRECTED TOWARD RECONVENING THE GENEVA CONFERENCE
THIS FALL.

ANY DISCUSSION OF THE DETAILS, THOUGH, SUCH AS SPECIFIC
DATES, HAS TO AWAIT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WE ARE HAVING,
INCLUDING THE MEETINGS UPCOMING WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN
LATER THIS MONTH.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY INDICATION THAT THIS PROBLEM OF PALES-
TINIAN REPRESENTATION HAS BEEN SOLVED IN THESE EXCHANGES?

A. DON, I DON'T HAVE ANY INDICATIONS ON THAT ONE WAY OR
THE OTHER, NO.

Q. THERE'S A REPORT IN FBIS, JERUSALEM RADIO, FRIDAY,
SAYING THAT LIKUD HAD PREPARED A SETTLEMENT PLAN PRO-
POSING ESTABLISHMENT OF FIVE TOWNS IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA;
AND IT GAVE THE NAMES OF THE TOWNS, WHICH I CAN'T PRONOUNCE.
IT ALSO SAID THAT THE LIKUD PLAN PROPOSED THE CONSTRUC-
TION OF FIVE ROADS TO CROSS THE BREADTH OF JUDEA AND SAMA-
RIA. HAVE YOU ANY INDICATION OF THIS LIKUD PLAN?

A. NO, NONE.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THIS REPORT?

A. NO.

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Q. HAVE YOU ANYTHING ON THE SITUATION IN LEBANON? THE CHRISTIAN MARONITE LEADER SAID THAT PALESTINIAN GUERRILLAS WERE CONCENTRATED AROUND CHRISTIAN VILLAGES CLOSE TO ISRAEL, AND THERE HAVE BEEN CHARGES TRADED BACK AND FORTH THE LAST FEW DAYS ABOUT WHETHER ISRAEL IS INVOLVED IN SHELLING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.

A. I HAVE NOTHING THAT I CAN GIVE YOU ON THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON BEYOND EXPRESSING AGAIN OUR HOPE FOR THE RESTORATION OF CALM IN THE AREA AND RESTRAINT BY ALL CONCERNED.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - JULY 5 FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE, FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN\'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR JUL
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